



**TESTIMONY TO THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE ON RAISED BILL S.B. 948, AN ACT ADDRESSING
EDUCATION FUNDING AND RACIAL EQUITY**

March 3, 2021

Co-Chairs Senator McCrory and Representative Sanchez, Ranking Members Senator Berthel and Representative McCarty, and distinguished members of the Education Committee:

I am Amaryllis Medina, I am a sophomore at Central Magnet High School in Bridgeport.

I am honored by the opportunity to support SB 948, An Act Addressing Education Funding and Racial Equity in Connecticut on behalf of students like me.

Right now, our state's education funding system does not work for me. It doesn't work for me, the student, it doesn't work for me, the underfunded pupil, it doesn't work for me, the undervalued star in this education system, only because our state doesn't seem to think we are valuable enough to fund!

I'm sad that I have been coming to you since the age of 9, asking you to increase funding. Today, I'm in the 10th grade and I haven't seen the funding we deserve come to our schools, yet! My older sisters graduated and never saw change! I want to see the change adequate funding can do for me before I graduate!

I have spoken to anyone who could hear, year after year and yet no one has seen us children important enough to fund. We always seem to get the scraps you all end up picking up from other areas. The definition of scraps is: "a small piece or amount of something, especially one that is left over after the greater part has been used"

Today I ask you, what do we mean to you? Are we valuable or are we scraps? Because from what I have seen, scraps are all you can offer to 22,000 of my fellow classmates and I year after year.

By passing SB 948, you will change not only my life but the lives of students throughout Connecticut. Step and do the right thing, don't keep giving us the scraps. SB 948 is our miracle.

Thank you.

Amaryllis Medina, Proud Bridgeport Student
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